

Modification of the Vernier Power Supplies in the Meson Beam Lines

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Power Supply Manufacturer

Electronic Measurements Inc. 405 Essex Road Neptune, New Jersey 07753

Type. Model No. SCR40-125

input is 3ϕ , 480VAC

40 VDC at 120 amps output

History of the Problem

This supply never performed satisfactorily because of the regulator's inability to cope with the 480 VAC line variations that occur when the Accelerator and large supplies in the Meson Lines ramp.

Motor-generator sets were installed as a solution. This was ineffective as the SCR's on the power supply inputs chop up the 480 VAC sine wave input to the extent that one power supply affects another.

Solution

The regulation system was very complex with many compensation paths. We decided to simplify the approach by designing a new regulator card with two compensation loops. The other condition was to utilize the present system to the extent that only the regulator card be changed.

Comments on the Modified Regulator Circuit Current Mode

The error voltage is the difference between the shunt voltage and product (calibration current) x (R current set). This is amplified and then integrated before going on to the voltage-current crossover and the output amplifier.

The integrator gives us a very high gain at low frequency and hence no long term error voltage.

The value for RC were arrived at experimentally. With RC=15 ms the system would oscillate. A very slow system would be unable to cope with the line changes. Hence a compromise value of RC=33 ms was arrived at. To further enhance the ability to cope with fast line changes, $R_{\rm r}C_{\rm r}$ was added to improve the high frequency response.

The use of good quality Op-amps makes the calculated system drift with temperature (30 ma/ 0 C max) acceptable.

This can be improved upon by a better Op-amp or an oven if necessary. Actual temperature drift measurements are about 3.0 ma/°C with the Burr-Brown BB3500 Op-amp.

Voltage Mode

The need of a high gain preamp for the error voltage is not necessary before integration. A high frequency loop consisting of $R_{r}C_{r}$ to the intergrator was necessary to eliminate high frequency oscillations at low voltages. Again the RC value of 33 ms was the best compromise.

General

The new regulator exhibits a 30% overshoot response to a step change in the input. This enables the supply to hold its value to $\frac{1}{2}$ 20 ma during an accelerator cycle which causes $\frac{1}{2}$ 15 VAC variations on the 3 ϕ 480 VAC line. The power supply holds the above specification over its entire range of voltage and current. (One of the most common complaints was low current oscillations).

This modification was installed for the 1st time during
December 1975. Since then the modification of the other Meson
Verniers has been part of an ongoing upgrading of the electronic
systems. As of this note the capabilities of more than 20
modified supplies has been tested and proven during Meson Lab
operations.



